AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A forming unit ~~(1)~~ for producing sealed packages ~~(2)~~ from a tube ~~(3)~~ of sheet packaging material fed along a feed path ~~(A)~~ and filled with a pourable food product, said unit ~~(1)~~ comprising jaw means ~~(6, 6')~~ acting cyclically on said tube ~~(3)~~ to grip and seal it at equally spaced cross sections defining opposite sealing bands ~~(15)~~ of said packages ~~(2)~~; interacting means ~~(23; 16)~~ interacting with said tube ~~(3)~~ and fitted movably to said jaw means ~~(12a, 12b)~~; and actuating means ~~(27; 40)~~ for operating said interacting means ~~(23; 16)~~; ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said actuating means ~~(27; 40)~~ are mounted entirely on said jaw means ~~(6, 6')~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said jaw means comprise at least two forming assemblies ~~(6, 6')~~, each defined by a pair of jaws ~~(8a, 8b)~~ cooperating cyclically with each other and with said tube ~~(3)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said interacting means comprise traction means ~~(23)~~ for exerting pull on said tube ~~(3)~~ of packaging material to correct the travel of said tube along said feed path ~~(A)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said traction means comprise two movable members ~~(23)~~ carried by one ~~(8a)~~ of said jaws

~~(8a, 8b)~~ of each said forming assembly ~~(6, 6')~~ and interacting on opposite sides with said tube ~~(3)~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said movable members ~~(23)~~ comprise respective pins ~~(24)~~ rotating with respect to the relative said jaw ~~(8a)~~; and respective tabs ~~(26)~~ carried eccentrically by said pins ~~(24)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 4 ~~or 5~~, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, for each said one ~~(8a)~~ of said jaws ~~(8a, 8b)~~, said actuating means ~~(27)~~ comprise a first control actuator ~~(28)~~, and transmission means ~~(29)~~ interposed between said first actuator ~~(28)~~ and said movable members ~~(23)~~.

7. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each said first actuator ~~(28)~~ comprises a first output member ~~(31)~~ movable in a direction ~~(F)~~ crosswise to said feed path ~~(A)~~ of said tube ~~(3)~~ and to the axes ~~(D, E)~~ of said pins ~~(24)~~ of the relative said movable members ~~(23)~~; and in that said transmission means ~~(29)~~ comprise, for each said one ~~(8a)~~ of said jaws ~~(8a, 8b)~~, a lever ~~(33)~~, which has a connecting portion ~~(34)~~ hinged to said first output member ~~(31)~~ of the relative said first actuator ~~(28)~~, and defines two fastening portions ~~(35, 36)~~ to which are hinged respective arms ~~(37, 38)~~ for activating the relative said movable members ~~(23)~~ and carried eccentrically by the respective said pins ~~(24)~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in ~~any one of the foregoing Claims~~ Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said interacting means comprise box means ~~(16)~~ enclosing portions ~~(20)~~ of said tube ~~(3)~~ of predetermined shape and volume and eventually defining said packages ~~(2)~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, for each said forming assembly ~~(6, 6')~~, said box means comprise a pair of boxes ~~(16)~~ connected movably to the respective said jaws ~~(8a, 8b)~~ and cooperating with each other to define a cavity of predetermined shape and volume and enclosing said tube ~~(3)~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, for each said forming assembly ~~(6, 6')~~, said actuating means comprise push means ~~(40)~~ activated selectively to grip together the relative said boxes ~~(16)~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A unit as claimed in Claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said push means ~~(40)~~ comprise, for each said jaw ~~(8a, 8b)~~, a second control actuator ~~(41)~~ having a second output member ~~(44)~~ movable in a direction ~~(G)~~ crosswise to said feed path ~~(A)~~ of said tube ~~(3)~~; and a toggle mechanism ~~(42)~~, which extends crosswise to the travel direction ~~(G)~~ of said second output member ~~(44)~~, is interposed between the relative said jaw ~~(8a, 8b)~~ and the relative said box ~~(16)~~, and is activated by the second output member ~~(44)~~.